

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORTTOPIC Soviet Troops and Maneuvers in STENDAL

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION Area PLACE OBTAINED Area 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED 21 November 1949 DATE PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
 letter of 16 October 1978 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence to the
 Archivist of the United States.
 Next Review Date: 2008

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIEDClass. CHANGED TO: TS

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Return to CIA

20 September to 3 October 1949

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1. a. The mass of the Soviet troops from the STENDAL (M 53/Y 85) military post returned from maneuvers between 20 and 25 September 1949. Intensive training activity was later observed at kaserne yards and training grounds.

- b. Motor vehicles identified in the streets of STENDAL:

truck, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck, driver wearing red epaulets
 jeep, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 jeep, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck of an air force unit
 truck of an air force unit
 truck, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck with rocket launcher
 truck, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 passenger car, driver wearing blue epaulets
 passenger car, driver wearing blue epaulets 50X1-HUM
) passenger cars
) passenger car, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

27 September 1949

- c. Fifteen T34 tanks were unloaded at the STENDAL railroad station and moved to the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne.

2 October 1949

- d. Six amphibian cars left STENDAL, moving towards BORSTEL (M 53/Y 75).

3 October 1949

- e. The troops from the Taunentzien and Albrecht-der-Baer Kasernes,

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and some troops from the Hindenburg Kaserne left in the direction of MAGDEBURG (M 53/Y 60) for field practices. Two trains with tanks and two trains with guns and artillery pieces were loaded at the railroad station. Infantry troops left by motor vehicle.

26 September 1949

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2. a. A convoy of about 30 trucks, coming from the direction of MAGDEBURG, arrived in the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne, STENDAL, in the afternoon. Twenty of the trucks each carried about 20 to 25 soldiers, wearing red epaulets. The other trucks were loaded with canvas-covered equipment. AA machine guns were mounted on five trucks.

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The convoy included the tank truck

Early October 1949

b. Information on STENDAL kasernes:

(1) Taubentzien Kaserne on Osterburgerstrasse:

Tank unit, mostly of trained personnel

AT artillery unit

Unit of personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets

Unit of personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets, partly made up of recruits

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Six T34 tanks, and three 76.2mm antitank guns were observed.

Some motor vehicles including the truck were also seen.

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Soldiers observed with the vehicles were red epaulets, while those observed with the vehicles were both red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

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The recruits were believed to be of the 1928 or 1929 classes.

The following activities were observed at the kasernes:

30 September 1949

Arrival of a convoy of about 25 trucks from the direction of TANGERLUENDE (M 53/Y 84).

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1 and 2 October 1949:

About 70 motor vehicles and four T34 tanks were lined up in a square at the kaserne yard at about noon. The motor vehicles included closed trucks, trucks with mounted anti-aircraft machine guns, passenger cars, jeeps and tank trucks. The troops observed with the vehicles wore coats, steel helmets, field packs and small arms.

(2) Hindenburg Kaserne south of the Buerger Park:

Occupied by troops wearing both red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with war decorations. No heavy weapons were observed.

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Most of the soldiers observed with motor vehicles [redacted] were red epaulets, while those observed with motor vehicles [redacted] wore red-bordered black epaulets.

30 September 1949

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A convoy of motor vehicles occupied by troops left the Hindenburg Kaserne for the woods about one mile north-north-west of the kaserne. The soldiers, equipped with entrenching tools, practiced the digging of slanting cavities which provided protection for the engines of motor vehicles. A telephone platoon laid a heavy field wire from the woods to the Hindenburg Kaserne.

Motor vehicles observed with the practicing troops:

[redacted] trucks	[redacted] passenger car	50X1-HUM
[redacted] passenger car	[redacted] truck	50X1-HUM
	[redacted] truck	

(3) Albrecht-der-Saer Kaserne and adjacent restricted area, east of the railroad line leading to WILHELMSDORF (A 53/Y 69):

high unit headquarters with passenger cars and busses [redacted]

mechanized and tank units with motor vehicles [redacted]

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Unit of recruits wearing red epaulets 50X1-HUM

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4 October 1949

3. a. Five T34 tanks and numerous trucks were unloaded at the STENDAL freight station in the morning.

- b. Other motor vehicles observed on their way to the railroad station included three (tank truck)

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12 October 1949

4. a. Troops of the STENDAL military post, who left in the direction of MAGDEBURG during the night of 3 October 1949, returned to STENDAL at night. It was observed recently that more than 50 percent of the troops were about 19-year-old recruits.

- b. Troops returning to STENDAL:

12 October 1949

- (1) Convoys of motor vehicles carrying troops and equipment arrived shortly before nightfall.

passenger car
closed truck
trucks carrying troops

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closed truck
truck with canvas-covered load
closed truck
jeep occupied by an officer
truck carrying troops
truck carrying troops
truck carrying signal equipment
tank truck
truck loaded with gasoline drums
tank truck
truck towing a field kitchen.

- (2) Later a column of about 30 sidecar motorcycles arrived and went to the Albrecht-der-Ber Kaserne.

- (3) Small convoys, mostly of trucks, followed until about midnight.

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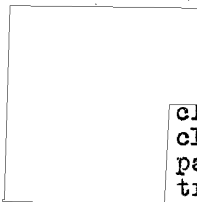
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trucks carrying troops

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closed truck with field kitchen
closed truck
passenger car
truck carrying troops.

(4) Seven tanks (each with six  wheels, two driving sprockets and a 75-mm gun) arrived in the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne shortly before midnight. 50X1-HUM

13 October 1949

(5) Small convoys continued to arrive until morning.

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 Comment:

The report indicates that the STENDAL troops, i.e. component units of the 207th Itz Rifle Div and Hq units of the Third Shock Army, returned to STENDAL up to 25 September 1949 after completion of the summer maneuvers (presumably from the area of the Letzling Heath). Some STENDAL troops left for field exercises from 3 to 12 October 1949. It is assumed that these units participated in large-scale maneuvers conducted by Third Shock Army units and possibly also by component units of the Third Gds Mecz Army (Cadre) in the area east of MAGDEBURG.

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